

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An anti-theft device operable with an electronic apparatus, the device comprising:

a remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit ~~contained within a casing of the electronic apparatus and including a control circuit~~ that is functionally separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus, said RIC unit contained within a casing of the electronic apparatus and including a control circuit and that enables tracking of the electronic apparatus, said RIC unit operable to receive a signal transmitted from an interrogator, to determine whether the signal is intended for the anti-theft device and whether the signal includes a shut-off command and, if so, to produce a shut-off signal in response; and


a shut-off unit coupled with a power source of the electronic apparatus, said shut-off unit in a shut-off state preventing a flow of electricity via the power source in accordance with said shut-off signal.

Claim 2 (Original): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a reset device communicating with said shut-off unit, said reset device

including a controller communicating with a memory and an input device, said memory storing data relating to the electronic apparatus, wherein said controller maintains said shut-off unit in said shut-off state until predetermined data corresponding to the electronic apparatus data is entered by way of said input device.

Claim 3 (Original): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a coded reset device, said shut-off unit remaining in said shut-off state until a predetermined code is input to said reset device.

Claim 4 (Original): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a message activating unit communicating with said RIC unit, said message activating unit activating a message in accordance with said shut-off signal.

 Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said shut-off unit comprises a fusible link.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method of operating an anti-theft device in cooperation with an electronic apparatus, the anti-theft device including a remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit ~~contained within a casing of said electronic apparatus and including a control circuit~~ that is functionally separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus, said RIC unit contained within a casing of said electronic apparatus and receiving ~~that receives~~ a signal broadcast from an interrogator, determining ~~determines~~ whether the signal is intended for the anti-theft

device and whether the signal includes a shut-off command and, if so, producing
~~produces~~ a shut-off signal in response, and said anti-theft device further including a shut-
off unit ~~comprised of components of the RIC unit and~~ coupled with a power source of the
electronic apparatus and supplied with the shut-off signal, the method comprising:

- (a) tracking the electronic apparatus with the remote intelligent
communication (RIC) unit; and
- (b) preventing with the shut-off unit a flow of electricity to the utilization
circuitry from ~~via~~ the power source in accordance with the shut-off signal.

Claim 7 (Original): A method according to claim 6, wherein the anti-theft
device further includes a reset device communicating with the shut-off unit, the reset
device having a controller communicating with a memory and an input device, the
memory storing data relating to the electronic apparatus, the method further comprising
maintaining the shut-off unit in a shut-off state until predetermined data corresponding to
the electronic apparatus data is entered via the input device.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 6, wherein the
anti-theft device further includes a coded reset device, the method further comprising
maintaining the shut-off unit in a shut-off state until a predetermined code is input to the
reset device.

Claim 9 (Original): The method according to claim 6, wherein the anti-theft device further includes a message activating unit communicating with the RIC unit, the method further comprising activating a message in accordance with the shut-off signal.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the shut-off unit further includes a fusible link.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An anti-theft device for shutting off an operable electronic apparatus subsequent to the electronic apparatus being stolen from its owner, the anti-theft device comprising:

a communication unit functionally separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus, the communication unit incorporated within the casing of the electronic apparatus and comprising:

a receiver for receiving a signal transmitted from an interrogator, and
a control circuit ~~that is separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus and~~ that is coupled to the receiver for determining whether the received signal is intended for the anti-theft device and, if so, for determining whether the signal includes an electronic apparatus shut-off command generated by the interrogator in response to a notification from the owner that the electronic apparatus has been stolen, and, if so, for producing a shut-off signal, and

a power blocking circuit responsive to the shut-off signal for placing the electronic apparatus in a shut-off state by blocking the flow of electricity from a power source of the electronic apparatus to the utilization circuitry.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication unit further comprises a transmitter and the control circuit also produces a return signal that is transmitted to the interrogator via the transmitter to provide tracking data for the electronic apparatus.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the tracking data comprises location coordinates derived from a global positioning system satellite.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication circuit further comprises a transmitter and the control circuit also produces a return signal that is transmitted to the interrogator via the transmitter to acknowledge receipt of the signal including the electronic apparatus shut-off command.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a memory storing data relating to the electronic apparatus,
wherein the control circuit compares input data supplied to the anti-theft device with the data stored in the memory to authenticate the input data, and

wherein the electronic apparatus remains in the shut-off state until the input data is authenticated.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the stored data comprises purchase data.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the stored data comprises purchaser data.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the power blocking circuit comprises a transistor having a current path connected between the power source of the electronic apparatus and utilization circuits of the electronic apparatus, and a control terminal supplied with the shut-off signal.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the power blocking circuit comprises:

first and second parallel current paths, one end of each of the first and second current paths being connected to a power source of the electronic apparatus;


a fuse having a first end coupled to the other end of each of the first and second current paths and a second terminal coupled to the utilization circuitry ~~circuits~~ of the electronic apparatus;

a first transistor having a current path connected between the second terminal of the fuse and a power supply potential, and a control terminal supplied with the shut-off signal,

wherein, in the shut-off state, current flows through a current path including the first transistor with a magnitude sufficient to blow the fuse.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the first current path comprises a second transistor and the second current path comprises a resistor.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the signal is transmitted from the interrogator via a satellite link.

 Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the signal is transmitted from the interrogator via a cellular telephone link.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device according to claim 11, wherein the electronic apparatus is a consumer electronic device.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the power blocking circuit is included within a packaged integrated circuit chip including other circuitry used by the utilization circuitry of the electronic apparatus.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication unit further comprises a programmable timer for periodically waking up the communication unit from an idle mode to activate the receiver to receive the signal transmitted from the interrogator.

Claim 26 (New): An anti-theft device for shutting off an operable electronic apparatus subsequent to the electronic apparatus being stolen from its owner, the anti-theft device comprising:

a communication unit which does not provide a communication function for the electronic apparatus in normal operations of the electronic apparatus, the communication unit incorporated within the casing of the electronic apparatus and comprising:

a receiver for receiving a signal transmitted from an interrogator, and

a control circuit coupled to the receiver for determining whether the received signal is intended for the anti-theft device and, if so, for determining whether the signal includes an electronic apparatus shut-off command generated by the interrogator in response to a notification from the owner that the electronic apparatus has been stolen, and, if so, for producing a shut-off signal, and


a power blocking circuit responsive to the shut-off signal for placing the electronic apparatus in a shut-off state by blocking the flow of electricity from a power source of the electronic apparatus.

Claim 27 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the communication unit further comprises a transmitter and the control circuit also produces

a return signal that is transmitted to the interrogator via the transmitter to provide tracking data for the electronic apparatus.

Claim 28 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 26, further comprising a memory storing data relating to the electronic apparatus, wherein the control circuit compares input data supplied to the anti-theft device with the data stored in the memory to authenticate the input data, and wherein the electronic apparatus remains in the shut-off state until the input data is authenticated.

Claim 29 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the stored data comprises purchase data.

 Claim 30 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the stored data comprises purchaser data.

Claim 31 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the power blocking circuit comprises a transistor having a current path connected between the power source of the electronic apparatus and utilization circuits of the electronic apparatus, and a control terminal supplied with the shut-off signal.

Claim 32 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the power blocking circuit comprises:

first and second parallel current paths, one end of each of the first and second current paths being connected to a power source of the electronic apparatus;

a fuse having a first end coupled to the other end of each of the first and second current paths and a second terminal coupled to utilization circuits of the electronic apparatus;

a first transistor having a current path connected between the second terminal of the fuse and a power supply potential, and a control terminal supplied with the shut-off signal,

wherein, in the shut-off state, current flows through a current path including the first transistor with a magnitude sufficient to blow the fuse.

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Claim 33 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the power blocking circuit is included within a packaged integrated circuit chip including other circuitry used by utilization circuitry of the electronic apparatus.

Claim 34 (New): The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the communication unit further comprises a programmable timer for periodically waking up the communication unit from an idle mode to activate the receiver to receive the signal transmitted from the interrogator.
